

Astronomy in Bugis – Makassar Culture Based on Historical and Ethnography Sources

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Abstract. Our research has been looking for astronomy aspects in Bugis – Makassar culture from historical to ethnography sources. We found from history that astronomy had been used by Bugis – Makassar society long before Islam came to South Sulawesi at early 17th century and had their own first telescope at the time of Gowa's Prime Minister, Karaeng Pattingaloang. Mean while from ethnography sources, astronomy utilization penetrated not only at islamic calendar and worship time, but also at agriculture, sailing navigation, and weather prediction. Some of our literature was taken from Lontaraq (ancient manuscript) which now the experts are not many and old, especially in astronomy field. It was found that Lontaraq was using Lunar period to characterize local weather [called: Pananrang]. Therefore, we need to immediatly excavate more about this matter before the experts reduced in number. Keywords: *ethnoastronomy; bugis-makassar; lontaraq pananrang; navigation; weather forecasting.*